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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4327

May 18, 2017

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

JUDICIARY

The Honorable Scott Pruitt Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

On behalf of the polyvinyl chloride (PVC) industry and a constituent company, I am writing to ask the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to devote the necessary resources to complete the reconsideration of the polyvinyl chloride maximum achievable control technology (PVC MACT) rule for PVC and copolymer production facilities.

PVC resin is the basic building block for PVC/vinyl plastic, which, with the addition of other ingredients, can be molded and processed into a range of products with performance qualities that people rely on every day. These characteristics include noncorrosive PVC pipe for water infrastructure and building supply, energy efficient window frames and doors, easily cleaned resilient flooring and wall coverings, fire-safe wire insulation, insulated siding, cool roofing, life-saving medical applications such as blood storage and intravenous solution tubing, and a myriad of other products.

EPA published its final PVC MACT rule on April 17, 2012. Due to many technical errors in the rule, the PVC industry petitioned the agency for reconsideration. EPA recognized many of these errors and granted the PVC industry's request for reconsideration. The PVC MACT has been under reconsideration for well over 4 & a half years with EPA not committing to a completion date in a December 2016 Court update. The industry has invested over \$50 million and 10 man-years to help EPA develop a technically sound PVC MACT. The PVC industry remains committed to a fair MACT rule.

The continued uncertainty of this rule under reconsideration restricts future growth and expansion for domestic PVC producers. As it currently stands, no completely new facility can be built because of the technical errors in the rule. During a time of widely available feedstocks and growth of petrochemicals in other polymer sectors, this effectively hamstrings this critical industry to its current facilities.

I respectfully ask that you place a high priority on completing this statutorily grounded rule. It is time to get the PVC MACT Rule completed.

Sincerely,

BLAKE FARENTHOLD Member of Congress

Glarie Farenthold

